GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:333
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2016
Technology Upgradation for Apparel Industry in Rural Areas
Natterjee Shri J. Jayasingh Thiyagaraj

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the textile sector in the country enjoys a comparative advantage in terms of skilled manpower and cost of production over major textile producers in the world and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether there is a notable difference in the use of technology in apparel making between the rural and urban areas of the country and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Union Government proposes to implement technology upgradation scheme/programme for rural areas so as to bridge the technology gap and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF TEXTILES
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION No.*333 for 08.12.2016 REGARDING TECHNOLOGY UPGRADATION FOR APPAREL INDUSTRY IN RURAL AREAS.

(a): The major textile producers of the world include China, India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Cambodia, Indonesia and Vietnam. For textiles manufacturing the largest cost component is raw material/ inputs contributing to two third of the cost followed by labour and rent and utilities contributing one fifth each. A relative comparison of labour and cost of utilities is as below:-

Costs Unit India Bangladesh China Vietnam

Minimum Labour wages US$/ month 101 68 211 170-190*

Power US cents / Kwh 10-12 9-12 13 8

Source: World Bank 2016 Report-Stitches to Riches, International Textile Manufacturers Federation (ITMF-Zurich) cost comparison report
* cost for semi-skilled labour; includes all benefits

It is clear that India has a comparative advantage with respect to labour cost vis-a-vis China and Vietnam and with China with regard to cost of power.

(b) & (c): No Madam, there is no notable difference in the use of technology in apparel making between the rural and urban areas of the country. Ministry is already implementing Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) which is available to units in both Urban and Rural Areas.

****